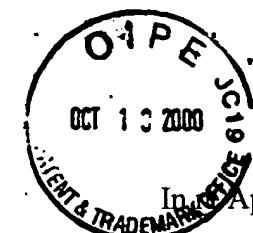


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 99-078

OCT 13 2000



In re Application of: WALKER et al.

Serial No.: 09/540,034

Filing Date: March 31, 2000

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS WHEREIN  
A THIRD PARTY SUBSIDY AND A  
MERCHANT SUBSIDY FACILITATE A  
TRANSACTION

) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

) Group Art Unit: 2761

) Customer No.: 22927



Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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OCT 18 2000

TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Sir:

Applicants hereby submit the following documents for the above-identified patent application:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449;
3. Copies of references (92) cited therein; and
4. Postcard.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the associated filing fee in the amount of 0.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0271, Order No. 99-078. The Assistant Commissioner is further authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the submission of this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0271, Order No. 99-078. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

October 11, 2000  
Date

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick J. Buckley

Patrick J. Buckley  
Attorney for Applicants  
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Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via First Class Mail in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 October 11, 2000.

E. Susan Goldberg  
Typed Name of Person Making Deposit

99-078 IDS Xmittal 10-00

E. Susan Goldberg 10/11/00  
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a thorough search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Nor shall the filing of this information disclosure statement be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. [X] Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider and independently ascertain the teachings and relevance of those applications with respect to the instant application. Applicants would be pleased to provide the Examiner with a copy of these applications upon request.
2. [ ] For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a European Search Report from a counterpart European application is enclosed. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. [ ] For each of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application. Such items are marked as reference letter(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
4. [X] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
  - [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.
  - [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491.
  - [X] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
5. [ ] No fee is believed to be due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of

Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 10 below.

6. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action). The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is to be paid as set forth in paragraph 11 below.
7. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance, but before the payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
  - a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 10 below; and
  - b. this document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.
  - c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 11 below.
8. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
  - [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue;

[ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition to Withdraw Application from Issue.

[ ] The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 11 below.

9. [ ] I hereby certify:

[ ] that each item of information contained in the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of such communication is enclosed.

[ ] that no item of information contained or listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. [ ] Please accept payment of the fees due as indicated below:

[ ] A check in the amount of \$240.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).

[ ] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$240.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0271 in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached for such purpose

[ ] A check in the amount of \$130.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1).

[ ] The Commissioner is authorized to charge \$130.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0271 in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1). A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

11. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271. A copy of this authorization is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Buckley

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October 11, 2000  
Date